

Dr. Robert E. Gutsche, Jr.

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Biography

Dr. Robert E. Gutsche, Jr., a critical/Cultural Studies scholar of digital journalism and media, is Associate Professor in the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies at Florida Atlantic University, in the U.S. Following a career in journalism, Gutsche's research is based in digital cultures of social media, VR and AI, political communication, and digital journalism, applying critical and cultural approaches to how digital content creators and journalists work as both power and change agents while adopting and reproducing authoritative and hegemonic explanations for local and world events. Specific to research in digital journalism, he identifies insertions of power in the news in terms of racisms and inequalities through place-making, international and climate discourses, and technological innovations that serve as expressions of journalistic authority. He is also Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Informatics at Vytautas Magnus University, in Lithuania.

Previously, Gutsche served as Associate Professor (Senior Lecturer in Critical Digital Media Practice) at Lancaster University in the U.K. and developed and oversaw academic programs in journalism and communication at University Academy 92 in Manchester, U.K., a joint public-private initiative with Lancaster University in Manchester that serves students from diverse backgrounds. Prior to that, Gutsche served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Journalism + Media at Florida International University, in the U.S., where he taught largely in its former Digital Media Studies program, researching and teaching immersive media cultures, entrepreneurialism in digital media, and about cultures associated with surveillance, social movements, and media systems. Gutsche is Associate Editor of *Journalism Practice*, where he founded, produces, and hosts "The J Word: A Podcast by Journalism Practice." The podcast features international scholars whose work has been published in the journal, *Journalism Practice*. The podcast also makes scholars' work free access for citizens and journalists, as well as makes the scholarship accessible and conversational for students in the classroom and for scholars across the globe.

As a journalist, Gutsche's work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Newsday*, *The Guardian*, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, and other regional and local news outlets in the U.S. He also cofounded the online non-profit Iowa Center for Public Affairs Journalism at the University of Iowa after helping to launch the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. An award-winning educator, Gutsche has led initiatives in community engagement and collaboration with journalists, students, and citizens through virtual reality and other immersive media in storytelling and research, particularly at Florida International University, in Miami, in the U.S. He has been recognized for his practice-led research that has been published in *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journalism Studies*, *Digital Journalism*, *Journalism Practice*, *Visual Communication*, and other journals as a Digital Journalism Research Fellow in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies at Oslo Metropolitan

University in Norway, as a Tow-Knight Disruptive Educator at the City University of New York's Tow-Knight Center for Entrepreneurial Journalism, and as a Fellow at Lancaster University's Institute for Social Futures, where is co-lead on the institute's environmental futures research vein. He also led and contributed to dynamic storytelling research initiatives through the University of Missouri's Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute.

Gutsche is the author and editor of several books, including *Media Control: News as an Institution of Power and Social Control* (Bloomsbury), *The Trump Presidency, Journalism, and Democracy* (Routledge), and *The Future of the Presidency, Journalism, and Democracy: After Trump* (Routledge). He has also been a frequent media expert for international news stations about U.S. politics and media, having conducted more than 300 interviews for channels, including CNN, Deutsche Welle, CNBC, TRT, RT, France 24, Sky News, Al Jazeera, BBC radio, and Australia ABC. Gutsche is joined in life with his wife, their two sons, and their dog, Stella. Visit robertgutschejr.com.